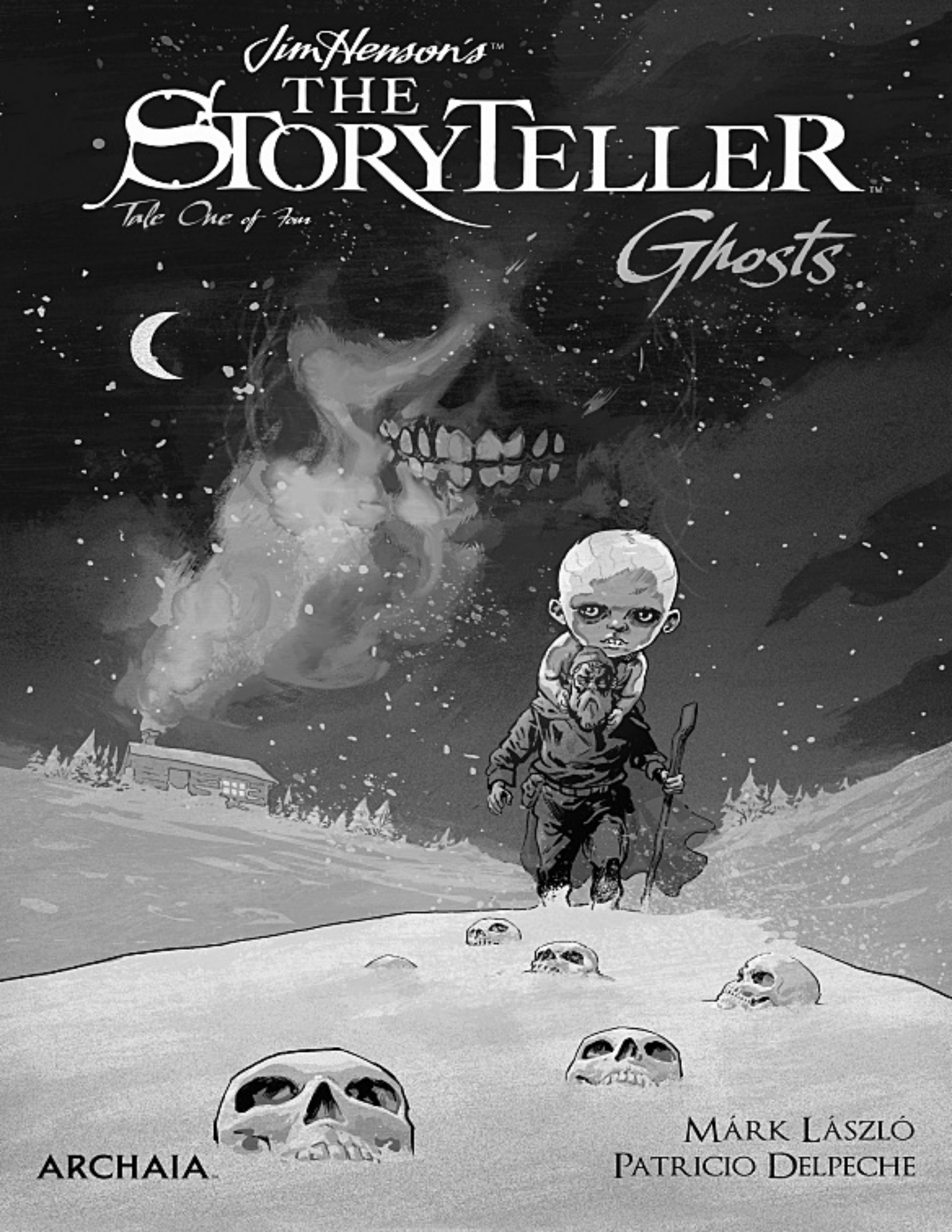
Jim Henson's™
THE STORYTELLER™
Tale One of Four
Ghosts
ARCHAIA
MÁRK LÁSZLÓ
PATRICIO DELPECHE

# THE MYLING

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Jim Henson's™
THE STORYTELLER™
Ghosts

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SILLY OLD DOG! ARE YOU *SURE* YOU WANT ANOTHER BONE?
SNIFF
SNIFF
SNIFF
YES!
THAT'LL BE THE FIFTH BONE YOU EAT TODAY. YOU'LL RUIN YOUR STOMACH AND CRY LIKE A *MYLING!*
...A "MYLING"?
HAVEN'T I TOLD YOU THAT ONE BEFORE? ABOUT THE VENGEFUL *INFANT-SPIRIT* HAUNTING THE FORESTS OF TIVEDEN?

HMPF! SOUNDS LIKE A REAL BONE-CHILLER.
IT ALL STARTED IN THE FROZEN FIELDS OF SCANDINAVIA...
THE TIMES WERE HARSH BACK THEN--FAMINE, EPIDEMICS AND DISEASE HAD DEVASTATED THE COUNTRY.
BUT EVEN IN THE DARKEST OF DAYS, THERE IS ALWAYS A GLIMMER OF LIGHT...
WAAAH! WAAAH!
A YOUNG SERVANT FELL IN LOVE WITH THE SON OF HER MASTER, AND GAVE BIRTH TO BEAUTIFUL, TWIN BABY BOYS.
WAAAH! WAAAH!
WE HAVE TO KEEP 'EM QUIET! IF MY FATHER FINDS OUT...

WAIT A MOMENT...
WAAAH!
FOR A MOMENT, IT SEEMED LIKE EVERYTHING WOULD BE ALRIGHT.
...THEIR PEACE AND HAPPINESS DID NOT LAST LONG.
THE CRUEL MASTER OF THE HOUSE WAS ENRAGED. TIMES WERE HARSH AND RESOURCES WERE THIN. FEEDING TWO MORE HUNGRY MOUTHS WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE.
SO HE MADE A HORRIBLE DECISION NOT UNCOMMON IN THEIR CIRCUMSTANCES...
FATHER, NO!
MONSTER!
DO AS I SAY.

WANTING TO SPARE HER CHILDREN A CRUEL DEATH AT THE HAND OF THE MASTER, THE MOTHER WALKED OUT INTO THE COLD CHILL OF THE FOREST.
THE SERVANT SAID HER SORROWFUL FAREWELL TO HER CHILDREN...

...AND LEFT THEM IN THE FOREST, TO BE CONSUMED BY THE WINTER FROST.

IT DID NOT TAKE LONG FOR NATURE'S COLD SILENCE TO DESCEND. BUT BEFORE THE WINTER'S EVE COULD CLAIM THE LIVES OF BOTH CHILDREN...
...A WANDERER CAME UPON THEIR BASKET, AND FOUND ONE CHILD STILL ALIVE.
YOU'RE GOING TO BE OKAY.
THE WANDERER RESOLVED TO CARE FOR HIM AS HER OWN.
AND SHE JUST LEFT THE OTHER ONE IN THE SNOW LIKE THAT? JEEZ, THAT'S TERRIBLE!
GHOST STORIES ARE RARELY HAPPY. BUT HOLD YOUR JUDGMENT, THE MYLING'S TALE IS NOT YET FINISHED.
SO... WHAT IS A MYLING?

AH, YES. A MYLING IS THE GHOST OF AN ABANDONED CHILD.
IT IS A SPIRIT BORN OUT OF PAIN...
...AND SORROW.
ALL OF THE SADNESS AND NEGLECT INFLICTED UPON THE CHILD TRANSFORMS ITS SPIRIT INTO A VENGEFUL GHOST, TRAPPED IN TORMENTED LIMBO...
...UNABLE TO REST IN PEACE.

SOME SAY YOU CAN HEAR THE MYLINGS' CRIES PIERCE THE NIGHT.
THEY ARE NOT INHERENTLY EVIL...
...BUT UNABLE TO ESCAPE THEIR PAIN.
SO THEY PASS THAT PAIN ON TO OTHERS.
TO BE FREED FROM THEIR BURDEN, THEY DEMAND AN INSURMOUNTABLE TASK...
...THAT FEW ARE ABLE TO FULFILL. BUT TO TELL YOU WHAT THAT TASK IS, I MUST RETURN TO THE BOY...

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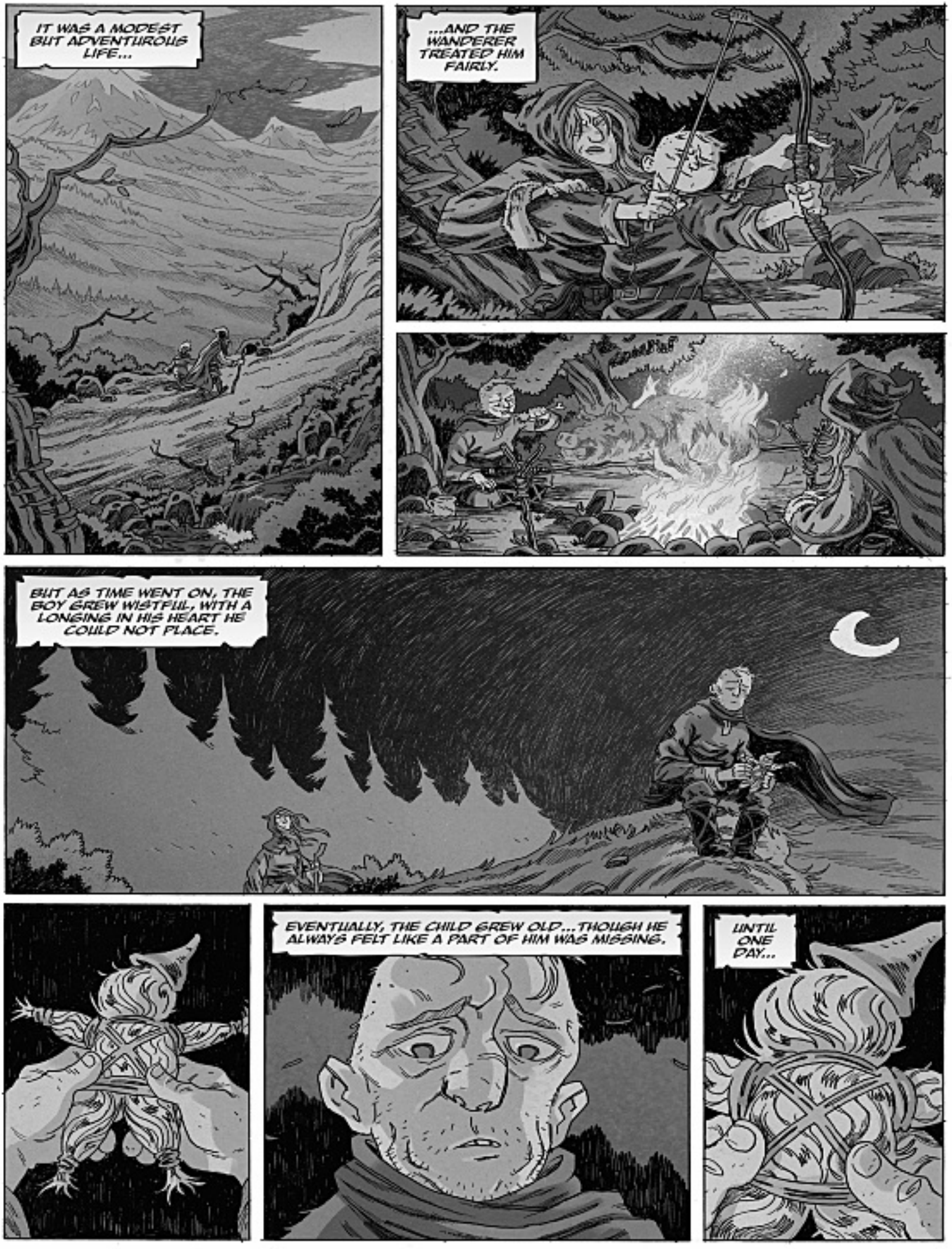
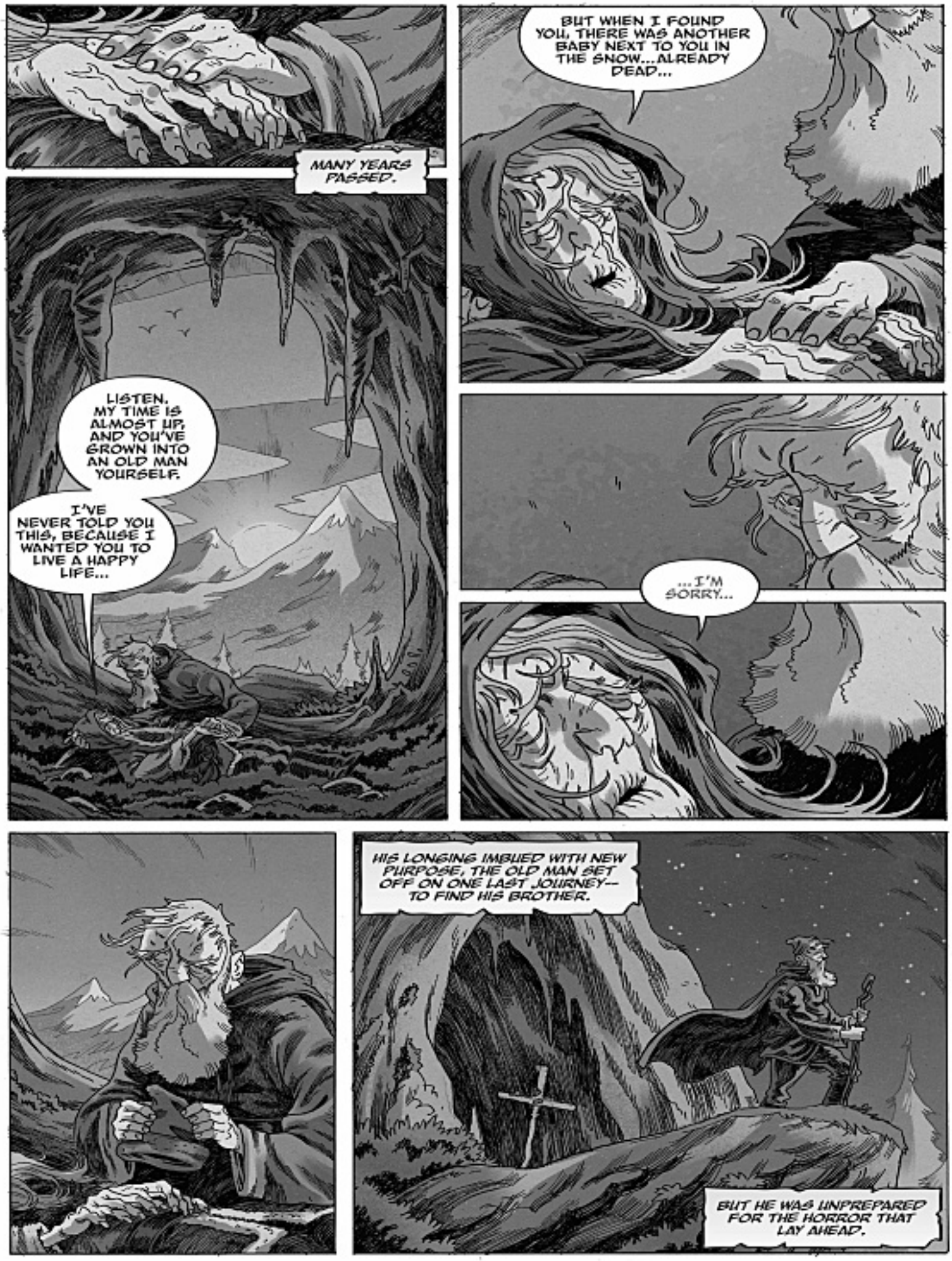
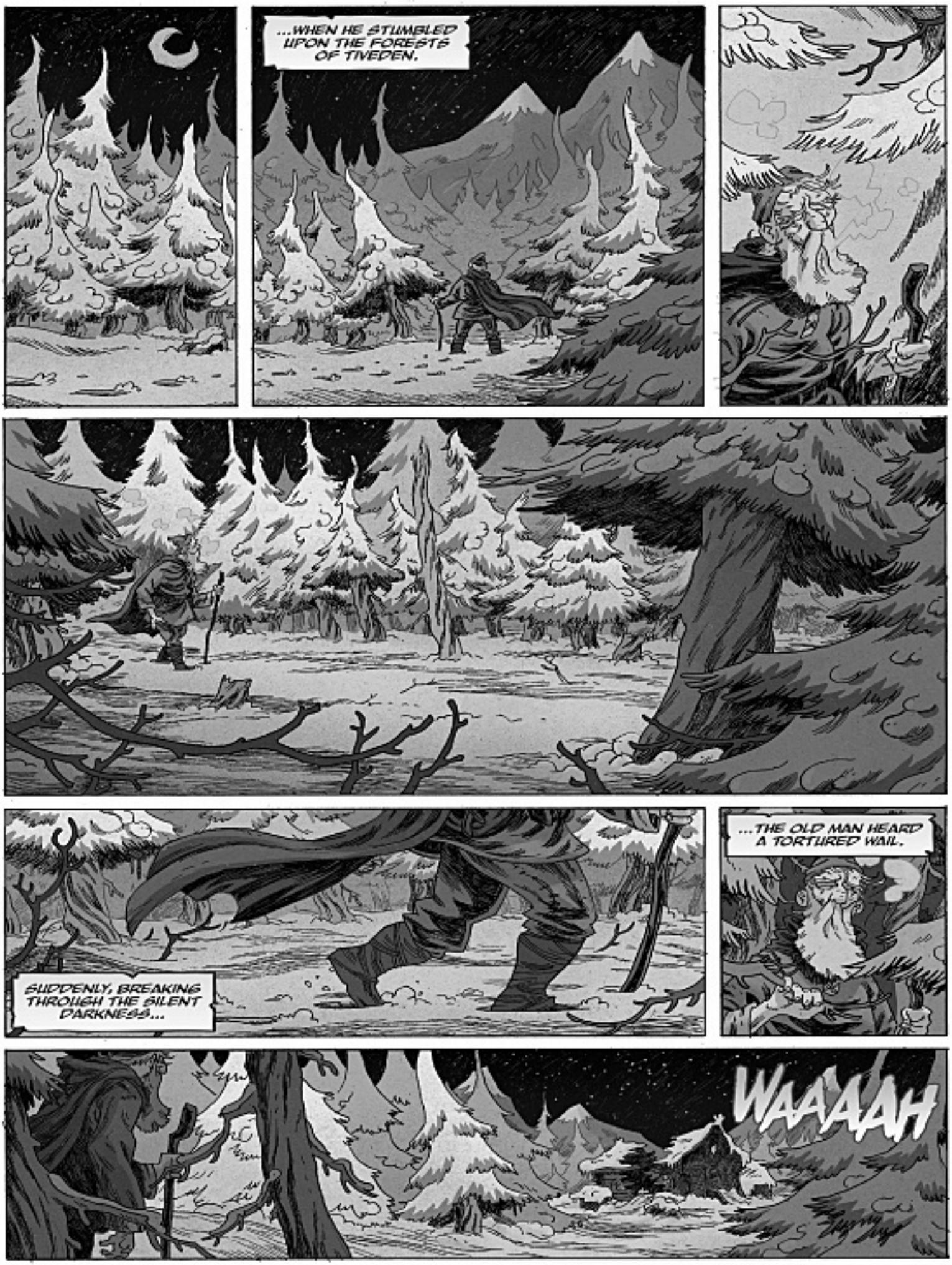

IT WAS A MODEST BUT ADVENTUROUS LIFE...
...AND THE WANDERER TREATED HIM FAIRLY.
BUT AS TIME WENT ON, THE BOY GREW WISTFUL, WITH A LONGING IN HIS HEART HE COULD NOT PLACE.
EVENTUALLY, THE CHILD GREW OLD...THOUGH HE ALWAYS FELT LIKE A PART OF HIM WAS MISSING.
UNTIL ONE DAY...


MANY YEARS PASSED.
LISTEN. MY TIME IS ALMOST UP, AND YOU'VE GROWN INTO AN OLD MAN YOURSELF.
I'VE NEVER TOLD YOU THIS, BECAUSE I WANTED YOU TO LIVE A HAPPY LIFE...
BUT WHEN I FOUND YOU, THERE WAS ANOTHER BABY NEXT TO YOU IN THE SNOW...ALREADY DEAD...
...I'M SORRY...
HIS LONGING IMBUED WITH NEW PURPOSE, THE OLD MAN SET OFF ON ONE LAST JOURNEY-- TO FIND HIS BROTHER.
BUT HE WAS UNPREPARED FOR THE HORROR THAT LAY AHEAD.

HE WANDERED FOR MONTHS...
...HE WANDERED FOR YEARS...
...BUT HE COULD NOT FIND HIS BROTHER.
NOW NEARING THE END OF HIS OWN LIFE...
...THE OLD MAN WAS ALMOST READY TO GIVE UP HIS SEARCH...


...WHEN HE STUMBLED UPON THE FORESTS OF TIVEDEN.
SUDDENLY, BREAKING THROUGH THE SILENT DARKNESS...
...THE OLD MAN HEARD A TORTURED WAIL.
WAAAAH

HE APPROACHED THE CRUMBLING COTTAGE WITH TREPIDATION IN HIS HEART.
WHAT HE SAW STIRRED WITHIN HIM A GREAT SENSE OF SADNESS. BUT HE RECOGNIZED THAT THERE WAS ONCE LOVE HERE, AND THE OLD MAN PRESSED ON.
WAAAAAAAAAH!

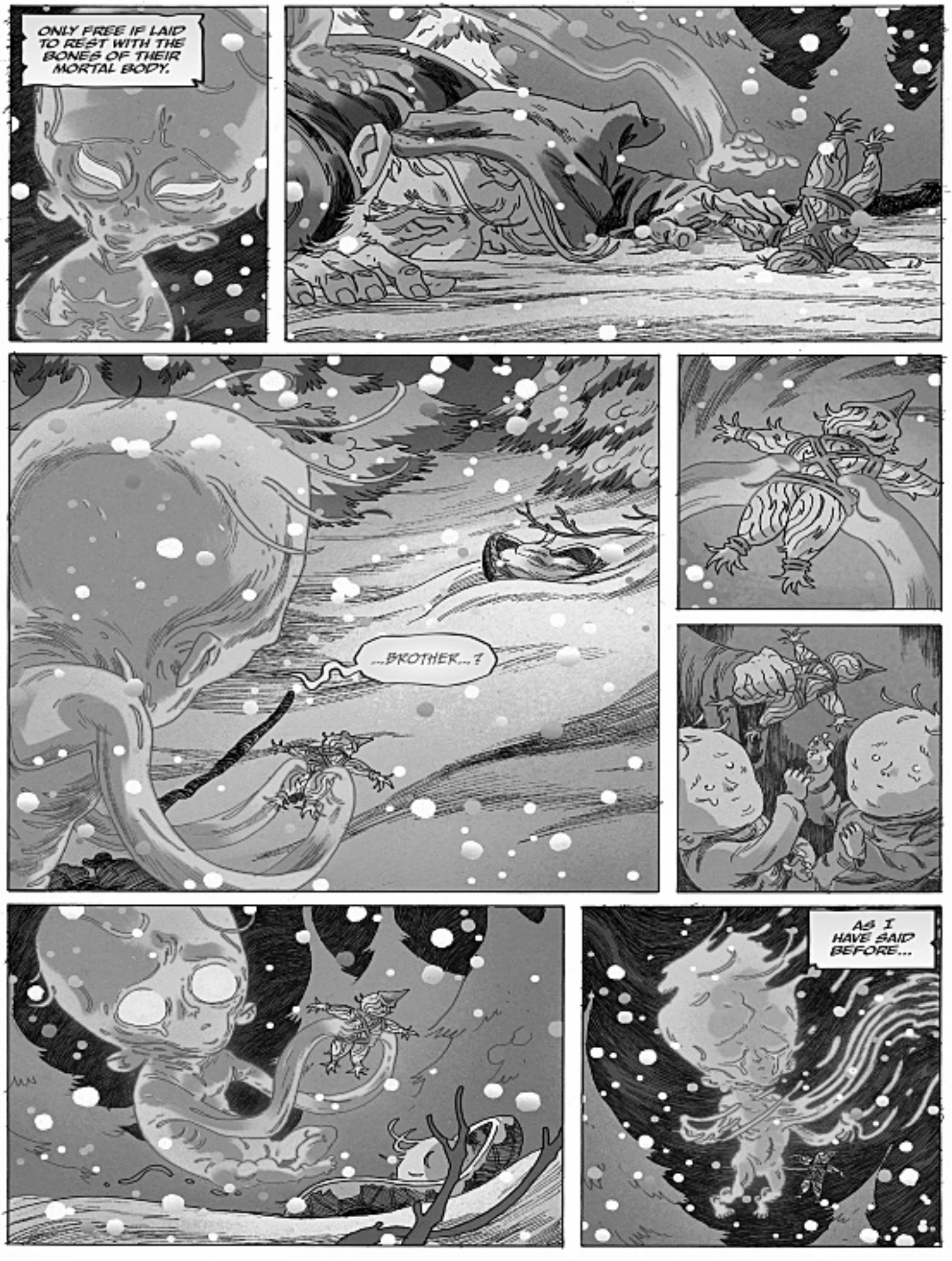
WHAT THE--

ARGH!
WOE
KKRAK
LEAVE ME BE, HORRIBLE THING!
Hissss...
GAHH!

WHAT...
...DO YOU...
...WANT?!
MY BONES... THEY NEED TO REST...
YOUR BONES? WHAT--
MY BONES...
BURY MY BONES.

SEEING NO WAY OUT, THE OLD MAN AGREED TO CARRY OUT THE TASK HE WAS GIVEN.
BUT THE FURTHER HE WALKED...
...THE HEAVIER HIS HORRIBLE STOWAWAY GOT...
KEEP GOING...
...AND THE STRONGER ITS GRIP BECAME...

...UNTIL THE OLD MAN COULD MOVE NO FURTHER.
I-I'M SORRY...I CAN'T DO THIS. YOU HAVE TO LET ME GO...
I HAVE TO FIND... MY...
...MY BROTHER...
SEE, THE MYLING'S TRAGIC ASK OF THE LIVING IS TO BE GIVEN A PROPER BURIAL.


ONLY FREE IF LAID TO REST WITH THE BONES OF THEIR MORTAL BODY.
...BROTHER...?
AS I HAVE SAID BEFORE...

...EVEN IN THE DARKEST OF TIMES...
...THERE IS ALWAYS A GLIMMER OF LIGHT.
IN THE END, THE OLD MAN FINALLY FOUND WHAT HE WAS LOOKING FOR.
AND THOUGH THIS MYLING WAS PUT TO REST, MANY MORE ARE STILL OUT THERE, SPIRITS WAILING IN THE NIGHT.

AS FOR THE OLD MAN...WITH HIS LIFE'S PURPOSE FINALLY FULFILLED, HE LIVED OUT THE REST OF HIS LIFE IN PEACE.
WOW, THAT REALLY WAS A GRIM STORY! AND NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...
...I THINK I'VE HAD ENOUGH FOR TODAY.
GOOD DOG!
THE END.

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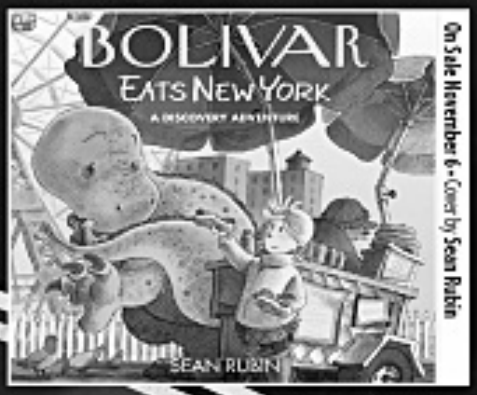


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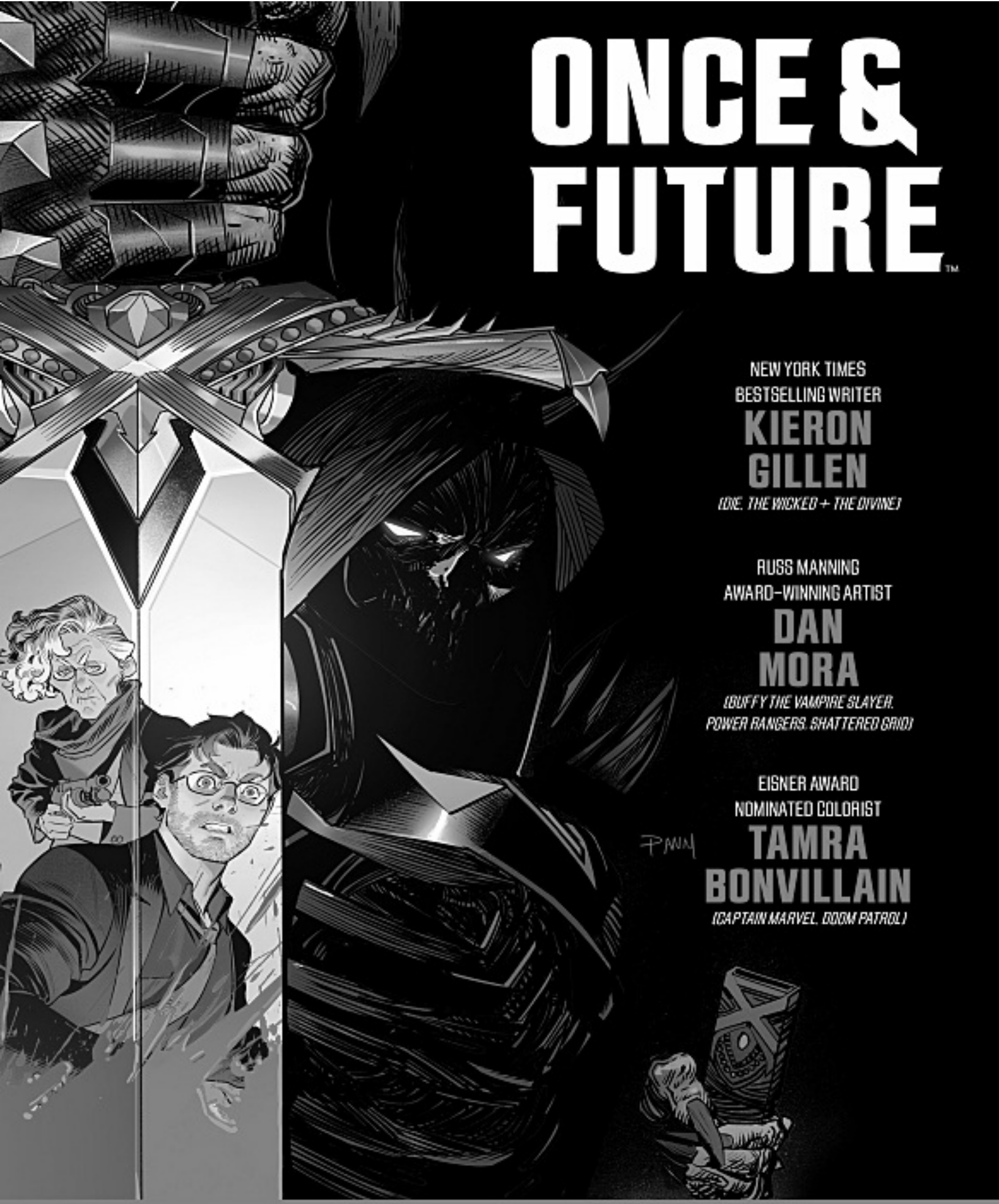

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DANNY LUCKERT
*(Regression)*

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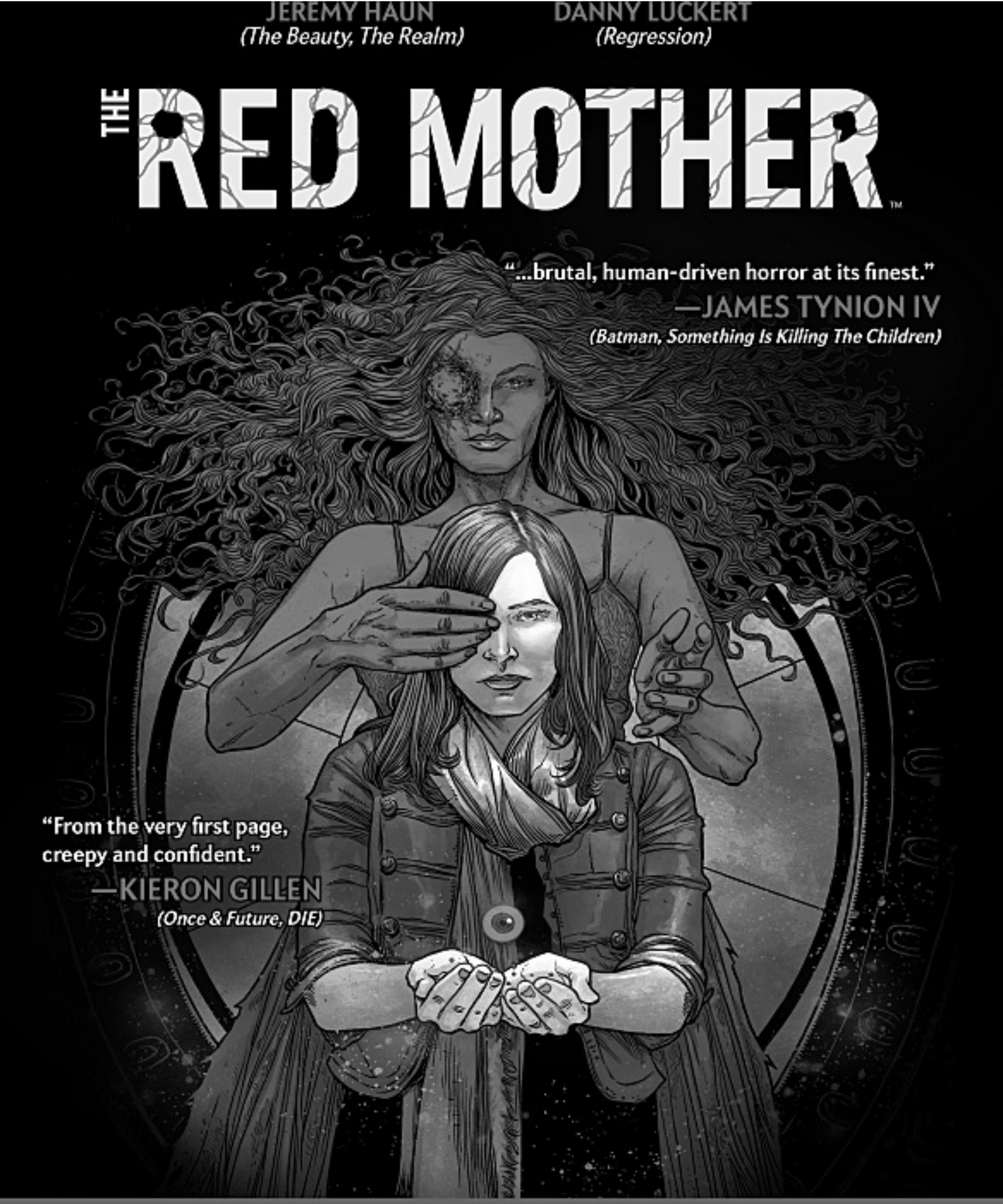

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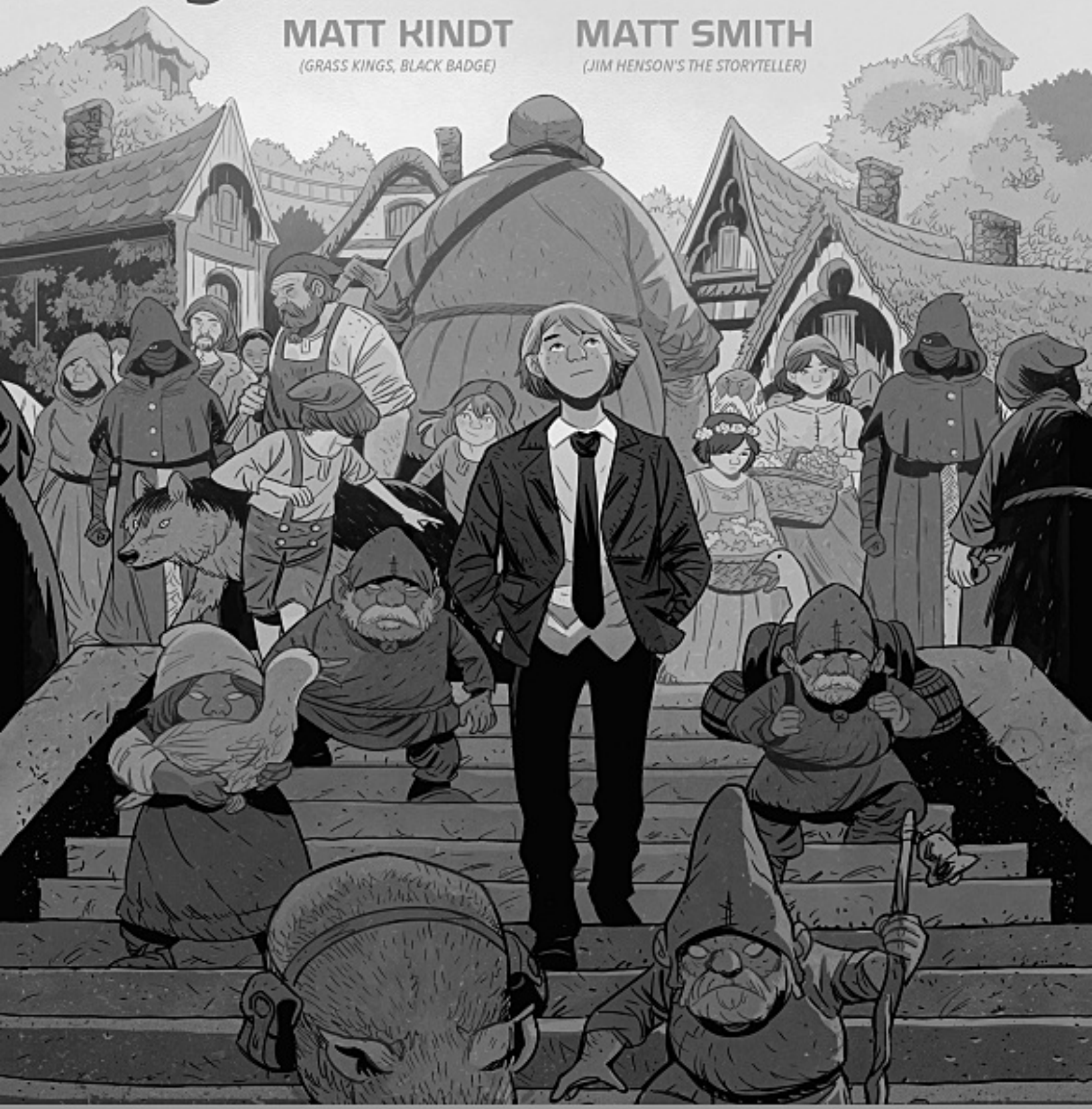

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